

INTOUCH

ENCOURAGING WORDS FOR THOSE WHO HAVE BELIEVED

YWAM

by Reona Peterson Joly

So We Went

The waves of the seas were crashing on the shores of the continents of the world... the waves became young people, tens of thousands of them, covering the continents and obeying the Great Commission to GO... and so we went.

We had heard the vision that God gave to Loren Cunningham; it witnessed deep within our spirits because we could see our own faces in the waves... so we enlisted.

Back in the 60's there was only a Summer of Service (SOS) and the choices were few – Latin America or the Caribbean. We went with energy and enthusiasm, but often with little skill or wisdom. But we went.

In the 70's the first training schools started in Europe, so we signed up. We wanted to serve God effectively in our generation. So we prayed, and closed countries opened up – Egypt, Albania, Ethiopia, Afghanistan. Instead of returning home, we went.

The Olympic Games – what an opportunity to reach scores of nations all at once. First with one thousand young people at Munich; then Montreal and Moscow and every four years ever since. So we gathered.

Hawaii. How wonderful to be called by God to those beautiful islands; the quaint thatched huts with the ants, the cockroaches, the rats, the downpours – we were on the rainy side of the main island of Oahu! Life in the tropics was less glamorous than the tourist posters had promised. But we hung in.

It was in Hawaii that we presided over the death and burial of YWAM's first ship; and it was there that God resurrected the vision – a much larger vessel that would sail the oceans of the world. Mercy Ships had been born in our hearts.

Before we had time to catch our breath, a Christian university was taking shape. And all the while, waves of young – and older – people were washing ashore on every continent and many islands... Asia, the Pacific, Africa, the Middle East, the Americas and Europe – both East and West. To every nation we went.

What wonderful memories stir in our hearts as we think back and remember what God enabled us to do; truly we can say, *all the way he led us.* (Deut 8:2)

But what of the present? And what of the future? Can we believe that the best is not behind us, but yet to come? The psalmist confidently declared, *But as for me, I will always have hope; I will praise you more and more.* (Ps 71:14)

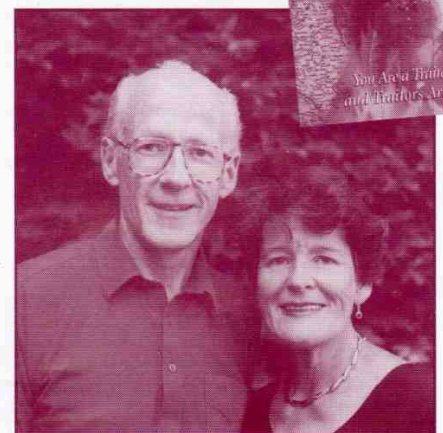
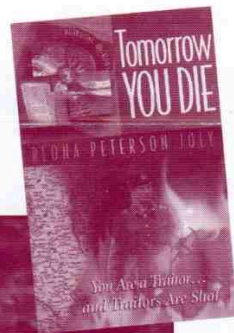
God has led many thousands into YWAM; also out of YWAM, because He wants to use them and bless them in other places and in other ways. Do you believe that? Are you like the psalmist, hoping in the future and praising God in the present?

So you went... but are you still going forward?

*Fill brief or long my granted years
Of life with love to Thee and man.
Strike when Thou wilt the hour of rest
But let my last days be my best.*

J.G. Whittier

Reona Peterson joined YWAM from New Zealand in the 60's. Together with another young woman, Evey Muggleton (now Heckman), she got into Albania in 1973, then the most closed nation in the world. Their adventure is thrillingly told in 'Tomorrow You Die' (see Insert). Reona married Albert Joly of Switzerland in 1979, and with their teenage son Pierre, they live at the Harpenden base in England. Reona teaches extensively in and out of YWAM, while Albert heads up the personnel department at Harpenden.



YWAM

inside

Following is a letter from an active YWAMer who read a whole new meaning into my last column entitled *Blessings & Curses* (which was about the necessity of blessing someone when they leave YWAM or any ministry). The writer was in a relationship that seemed to be going nowhere...

Man, these have been the strangest years for me! So much has been tested, so much junk has found its way to the surface. If I was someone else looking at my life, I would have easily said, 'Don't call us, we'll call you.'

A friend asked if I had read your *InTouch* article. I told him yes. He told me to read it again. Anyway, what resulted was that I ended up releasing (my girlfriend). I prayed and blessed her and encouraged her. When I first read the article I just thought it referred to missions, ministry relationships, etc. Then it made so much sense that the blessing applied to *any* relationship. After I did release her, I felt the Lord saying, 'Now you are free to go forward as well.' Right away, no kidding, it seemed like there was hope again.

Name withheld

Visit Our Web Site...

www.ywamintouch.org
for news of camps
and other happenings.

Foundational Values

A number of years ago, a list was made of the biblical principles upon which YWAM is founded, and under which the mission seeks to function. These principles are not just for YWAM - they are valid for any Christian, in any walk of life. They will appear in future editions, in no particular order, though the first one is particularly significant to *this* ministry...

YWAM is called to **Value Each Individual**, and believes that everyone, male and female, have unique gifts and callings. YWAM is committed to equipping, building and releasing into Christian service, all those that God sends to us; and that cultural, racial and denominational diversity amongst our staff, are positive factors that contribute to the health and growth of the mission. (1 Cor 12:4-6, 27-31; Acts 13:1-3; Rom 12:3-8; Eph 2:19-22)

YWAM Associates International was started because the Lord showed us the value of each individual that has been called into YWAM - even if it was for a short season.

Donna's Corner

Give Thanks With A Grateful Heart



Grateful for Grandchildren

Sailing from New Zealand to Fiji with the M/V Island Mercy (see photo on opposite page), I asked the Lord for something to share with you. From the middle of the South Pacific Ocean, this is what I sensed Him say:

*I want My people to **be thankful...***

Be thankful for all that is happening today - I'm shaking everything that can be shaken so that My Kingdom will come and My will be done. Heb 12:28

Be thankful in all circumstances, always looking for things to be thankful for. I Thess 5:18; Eph 5:19-20 (It's so easy to look for the negative things.)

Be thankful for all the relationships I've given them.

Be thankful for all that I've done - and then tell it to the nations. I Chron 16:8-12 (Wow! Just think about that!)

Be thankful for My grace. II Cor 9:14-15

Be thankful for Who I am - and who they are. Psalm 100

I want them to express thanks to Me and to each other - to stop complaining and start rejoicing in each other.

It's a day of new beginnings for those who are willing to put the past behind them. Be thankful for all I've done - and all I'm going to do. It's a day of new beginnings. Is 42:5-9; 43:18-19

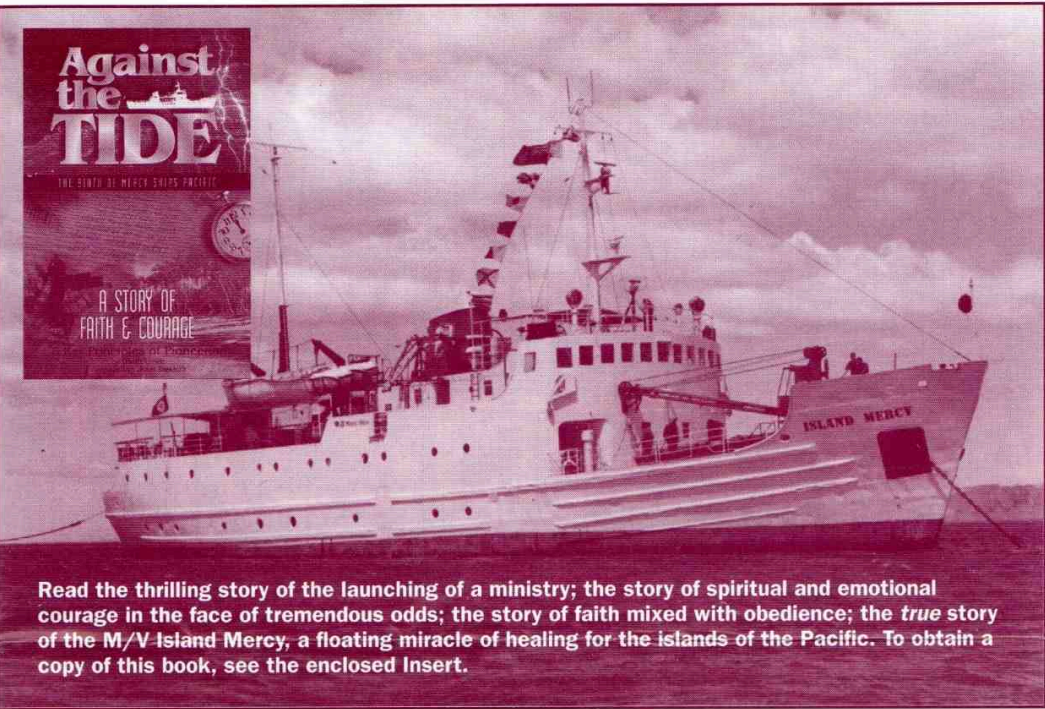
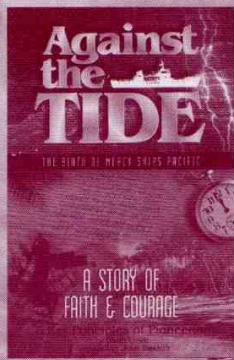
I'm thankful for you!

Love & Blessings,

Donna

Quote from a recent letter...

"I think there will be a little corner in heaven marked, YWAMers MEET HERE."



Read the thrilling story of the launching of a ministry; the story of spiritual and emotional courage in the face of tremendous odds; the story of faith mixed with obedience; the true story of the M/V-Island Mercy, a floating miracle of healing for the islands of the Pacific. To obtain a copy of this book, see the enclosed insert.

1998 INTOUCH RENEWAL CAMPS

Restenas, Sweden - July 5-11
with Paul Hawkins

Winfield, BC, Canada - July 19-25
with Tamara Winslow

Singapore/Malaysia - August 4-8
with Dan Sneed

Minneapolis, Minnesota - First-ever
DayCamp - Saturday October 24
with Dean Sherman

Kona, Hawaii - November 15-21
with a variety of speakers

And a peak ahead at early 1999...

Crystal Springs, Matamata,
New Zealand - January 10-16
with Dean Sherman

Merroo Christian Conference Centre,
near Sydney, Australia - January
17-23 with Dean Sherman

'Send-your-Pastor-to-Camp' Camp,
Kona, Hawaii - February 21-27
with Dan Sneed

Tampa, Florida - March 21-27.
Speaker to be announced.

*Note: All camps are directed by
Peter & Donna Jordan*



Tamara Winslow will be the speaker at Winfield, BC Renewal Camp.

Unreached People Group

Somewhere between two and three million people have had some YWAM involvement over the past 38 years. The InTouch mailing list is at about 17,000 – and holding. Our vision is to contact everyone who has touched YWAM - and moved on. There is a vast unreached people group out there - can you help us by sending in names & addresses of former YWAMers that you know? Thanks heaps (as they say Down Under).



STOP THE PRESS!

THE CAMP TIMES

FIJI RENEWAL CAMP LARGEST EVER

(not that numbers are everything)

Early in May we gathered – 150 of us – near Suva, camped beside sparkling, azure waters, with YWAM's M/V Island Mercy anchored just inside the coral reef. Wonderful times of refreshing were enjoyed by all, and Neville Wilson, who led the work in Fiji and Tonga for many years, was commissioned to head up YWAM Associates in all South Pacific island nations.

Neville Wilson

PROFOUND & PITHY

This is the Chinese character for 'Busy'; it is made up of two parts: 'heart' & 'death.'

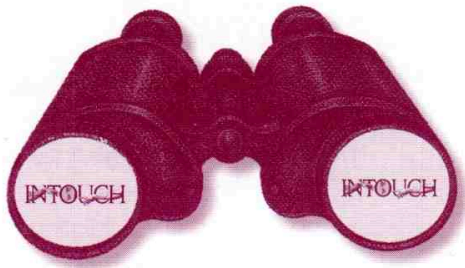


When I say that I am 'busy,' does that make me feel more important? Or, does it reflect the state of my heart? Something to think about.

Do we try to fill buildings with people or fill people with God? *Steve Meeks*

Contentment is understanding that if I'm not satisfied with what I have, I will never be satisfied with what I want. *Bill Gothard*

The world rewards success but God rewards faithfulness.



Watch for the next
InTouch - It will be
our 10th anniversary,
Edition number 30.

What YWAM Associates is all about...

1. Encouragement, through *InTouch*, Renewal Camps and continuing communication through our office and House of Peace.
2. Facilitation of reconciliation & restoration, by trying to get understanding through listening to God.
3. Networking nation-disciplers who are functioning in the area of the mind-molders (for example, business, media, education, the church and the arts).

Now read this from a Kiwi couple who are discipling nations through business...

We are based in New Zealand and are looking to export products to any part of the world. We trade in anything except weapons or items that damage people. Currently we have for sale: lumber, possum skins, cattle, hardware store items and many other products manufactured here. Brendan & Annette Woodnutt, BWA Group, Box 14564, Wellington, New Zealand. Fax: 64 4 472-2112. Email: bgw@bwagroup.co.nz

and finally... a word from your editor



I Have Control!

The Captain of an airplane, when he wishes to resume hands-on flying, says to his copilot, "I have control." The rejoinder that comes immediately is, "You have control." This little verbal exchange which takes place several times during the course of a flight, is absolutely essential to avoid confusion in the cockpit. Having control of an airplane is one thing. Having control of people is another.

For five years I was an air traffic controller, directing airplanes containing hundreds of people, along the airways of the sky. My job was to keep air traffic flowing in a safe manner and at all costs to avoid a 'clanger,' dark humor for a mid-air collision, an aviator's most feared event.

I have also been a controller in my personal relationships. A sharp look, a narrowing of the eyes – these are my instruments of control. My family – and others too – have been the recipients of these visual daggers. I think I'm doing better though, these days.

Back in my first YWAM school, I remember Loren Cunningham saying, "If you see someone taking responsibility, give that person authority. If you see someone looking for authority, watch out!" Power is authority run amok; control is the exercise of that power and usually comes from a place of insecurity. And the result is a legalistic approach to life, where rules govern and control every move. (*Some rules are almost always necessary for the good of all.*)

As Gene Edwards says in his book, **A Tale of Three Kings*, "Legalism is nothing but a leader's way of avoiding suffering. Rules were invented by elders so they could get to bed early."

A friend of mine, Dr John White, says that controlling others is a form of witchcraft, which in itself is lust for power. King Saul demonstrated this through his rebellion – he wanted *more* power (I Sam 15). Leaders of ministries, leaders of churches, leaders of families – any kind of leader – must guard against the use of this satanic influence.

How can *you* know that *your* leadership is based on control? Your authority will be established upon rules and regulations – and fear. You will talk a lot about submission - in others. If you look back – if you dare to look back – there will be a trail of broken relationships leading away from your ministry. And the really scary thing is that you can justify to yourself that every single one of them left you because of *their* problems.



There is one kind of control that is admirable, and that is self-control, a fruit of the Spirit (Gal 5:22). Self-control is a fundamental characteristic of any good leader and a quality to be desired by all.

So let us all aim to be in the place where we can say, "I have control – of myself!" Once that is accomplished through God's grace, there will no longer be the need to control others.

**I think A Tale of Three Kings is a must for every Christian's library. It's all about brokenness, straight from the life of King David, and is relevant to each of us. In the ten years of this ministry, we have distributed boxes and boxes of this book. If you don't have one, see the Insert and order one now!*